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SENATOR WICKERSHAM: And then every time the Speaker changed the order or added something to the order of amendments or motions that were pending, is that...does that constitute a new ruling from the Chair and is that debatable?

SENATOR BROMM: The introducers, as well as the rest of the Rules Committee, feels that that would not be subject to an overruling of the Chair and that would be consistent with our understanding of how the Speaker major proposals have been handled.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time. Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Kristensen.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Madam President, members of the Legislature, obviously as Speaker, this new rule change casts a whole new view of the Speaker's role and I want to make sure that everybody is crystal clear that this is not my grab for power, this is not an initiative that I'm bringing to grab power. Some will be disappointed by that; others will cheer that. I don't care. What I do care about that is that we understand and I get some understanding because I'm now in uncharted waters and I need to understand what expectations this rule has for me procedurally, because I'm going to use my good judgment, what little I may have left, to carry it out. Regardless of how I will rule, there will be those that say I do it for my own gain. There will be those who will say I'll do it for punishment. I can't stop that and I can't alter those views. Whatever the rules are, they're your rules and I'll abide by them by the best of my ability, but realize it's going to be by the best of my ability. And so with that, Senator Beutler, I just need some direction from you this morning so I can begin to ponder this. Let's say bills come out. I'm sitting as Speaker in the chair or I'm sitting over here in my desk. Is it something I can do with...let's say the principal introducer is Senator Hudkins. She comes in and says, I had a rough time in committee, I want structured debate right out of the box. As I read the rule, that's permissible.

SENATOR BEUTLER: That would be permissible under the rule as I understand it.